

Welcome Academy Alumni!

To the Alumni of M.B.A.:

The student body of M.B.A. would like to take this opportunity to welcome you back to the Academy.

When you were in school here, you probably never thought of one day returning as an "old grad" for an Alumni Day such as this. The news at first came to us as a sur-

prise too.

But when plans for the day were outlined, Academy boys lined up with the project 100 per cent, for pride in Alumni is a natural trait at M.B.A.—not just because we share the same Alma Mater, but because for over a century and a half Maroon graduates have established top

records in their various fields which serve as an inspiration to M.B.A. boys today.

The purpose of this first Alumni Day in Academy history is just what its title says—a day for you. Spend it just as you want to. You may wish to meet and talk with members of the faculty, many of whom you already know.

Mamie, the cook, is still with us

and we wouldn't swap her for the world. If you know of any new places where the fish are biting, Coach is always interested. The Honor Room carries a pictorial record of Maroon classes and teams right up to 1950. You may be interested in the tennis matches and the baseball game on the campus this afternoon. A barbecue supper will be served starting at 5:30.

Above all, enjoy yourself! That's our main objective; that's what the Ladies' Auxiliary has been planning on for so many weeks.

We hope that this first Alumni Day will become an annual affair, so perhaps we can see you again next year. On second thought, why wait till next year? You are welcome any time.

The M.B.A. Student Body

THE BELL RINGER

Of Montgomery Bell Academy

Tennessee's Oldest Prep School . . . Established 1806

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MAY 11, 1950

Alumni Sidelights

Among the many Alumni of M.B.A. Dr. Smiley Blanton rates as one of the top notables. One of New York's leading psychiatrists, Dr. Blanton was invited to the Alumni Day celebration while in town to autograph his recently published book, *The Art of Real Happiness*.

Another grad M.B.A. can be proud of is Mr. Morris Frank. Mr. Frank is noted for starting the training of seeing-eye dogs. He has established a training center in New Jersey.

Mr. Hermes Pan, another famous graduate, is one of the country's top choreographers (dance designers). He has invented and planned the dances for several recent movies.

Among the recent grads, Tom McEwen is an honor roll student at the U. S. Naval Academy. He rates sixth in math and eighth in marine engineering in a class of nine hundred at Annapolis.

Bernard Werthan, also a recent grad, was a top Academy student and now rates a spot on the Dean's list at M.I.T.

Another name M.B.A. is proud of is that of the late General Frank (Continued on page 4, col. 3)

Key Club News

Carpenter Heads MBA Key Club for 1950-51

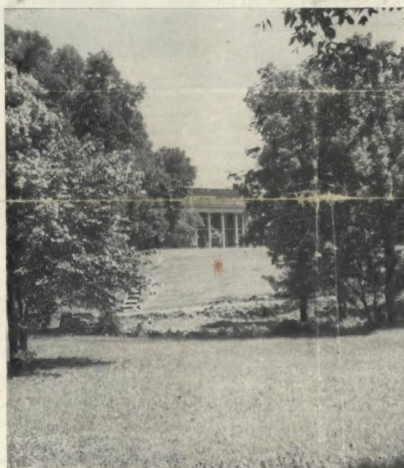
District Key Club Governor and Junior Class President Dick Carpenter chalked up another honor as he was elected President of the M.B.A. Key Club chapter for the coming year. He succeeds Lem Stevens.

Charlie McDaniel was chosen to take over the Vice-President's duties, following Billy Bryan. Filling Bill Estes' Secretary slot will be Alan Cooper, while Togy Jones handles Club finances, succeeding Treasurer Bob McNeilly.

(It is rumored that McNeilly spent a hectic night-before-elections attempting to balance the books.)

With elections behind them Key Clubbers are now at work on Stunt Night, which is to be given under sponsorship of the Club this year.

MBA Today—Campus View from Harding Road . . .



. . . and front of Math and Science Building



The trio of buildings forming the nucleus of present-day M. B. A. date back to the mid-twenties. M. B. A. has been at the same Harding Road site since 1916. Before that the Academy spent 1915 in an uptown location and 1867 through 1914 in South Nashville.

MBA Mothers, Students Host First Academy Alumni Meet

Barbecue Climaxes Months of Work By Auxiliary, Student Committees

Climaxing months of hard work, the Ladies' Auxiliary and the Student Body will play hosts to Academy graduates this afternoon on the campus. Under the direction of Mrs. David Adams, the Auxiliary and student committees have exerted every effort in preparation for this event.

Alumni Day Schedule

5:30—Tennis match with Duncan; baseball game with West on main diamond; Microbe - Woodmont softball game on field between Stadium and Montgomery Bell Lane.
5:30—Barbecue on terrace between Main Building and Science Building.

Grads will begin to arrive on the campus at three o'clock to celebrate the school's first alumni day in recent years. Highlight of the day will be at 5:30 when the alumni and their families will feast on the barbecue to be served on the back terrace. Other features of interest will be the baseball game, softball game, and tennis matches scheduled for the afternoon. Eight hundred visitors are expected to be on hand to help make the day a success.

M.B.A. is proud of its many and distinguished alumni, and invites everyone to enjoy this meeting, which may be the first of an annual celebration.

Alumni News

MBA Grads Set Top College Record

By CARL GATES

In this issue of the Bell Ringer I would like to devote the Alumni News to statistics concerning Academy graduates over a span of the past four years.

Of all the boys who have entered college in the past four years 96.1% of the 569 classes taken have been passed. Of the 181 graduates from MBA, 126 have entered college. During the past year of 195 courses taken, there were only seven failures for 96.4%. In 1948, of 140 courses taken, there were six courses failed for a 95.7%. In 1947, of 90 courses taken six were failed for a 6.7%. In 1946 there were 112 courses with six failures for a 5.4%.

This definite decrease in college failures over the past four years shows the great improvement (Continued on page 2, col. 1)

Dr. Moore Describes "Gay Nineties" At South Nashville Montgomery Bell

Typical of the flood of letters from Alumni in preparation for Alumni Day is this description of Academy life in the '90's by Dr. William Cabler Moore of Stamford, Connecticut:

"I entered M.B.A. in September, 1896 and graduated in June, 1900. At that time the Academy was on its old campus in South Nashville. The faculty consisted of Prof. S. M. D. Clark, "Smack Me Down", Principal, who taught the classic languages and the business courses; Prof. P. H. Manning, who taught algebra, grammar and all the sciences; Prof. J. W. Brister, who taught English literature, German, higher algebra and geometry; Prof. John Lowry, who taught public speaking. He was a rather stern, lame old gentleman who was born

in the North of Ireland. We all loved him though and he was a good teacher; Prof. Green who taught grammar school subjects; and Prof. A. C. Webb, who came twice each week and gave us one day an hour's instruction in penmanship and on another day the same amount of work in drawing. In addition there was Jim the colored janitor, who was a favorite with all of us boys.

"My most inspiring teacher was Prof. Manning and it was largely through his influence and guidance that I realized my ambition to become a scientist.

"In those days we all had to stand a written examination every month. The March tests were written out in ink, on legal size fool's cap paper. All these papers written by (Continued on page 2, col. 3)

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Our Historic, Heroic, Humorous Past

by John Adams

As we are students here only four or five years, it is hard for us to know the little humorous incidents of bygone years. The only way we are able to be familiar with these is for the alumni to write us. I quote a few of these recollections from a letter written by Mr. L. M. DeSaussure, class of 1886.

"The history of Montgomery Bell Academy is well known and I shall confine myself to my recollections as a student there.

"I graduated with the class of 1886, after four years. The school at that time had two divisions—the grammar school and the high school, with three grades in each.

"The presiding genius was Prof. Samuel Marmaduke Dinwiddie Clark. Prof. Clark had been a Confederate soldier and tales were told of some wonderful feats of his, one of which was to swim down the Mississippi River at night with dispatches, for several miles. He was a man of fine physique, a gentleman with the finest instincts of the old South, a great church member.

M.B.A. GRADES SET

(Continued from page 1, col. 5)
brought about by the faculty in its attempt to raise the scholastic standing of the school.

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Juniors Host Seniors In Annual Park Picnic

Shakey-kneed members of the Junior Class played host to gloating Seniors at the annual Junior-Senior maul—picnic, Edwin Warner Park, Wednesday afternoon, May 3.

Highlight of the day was the yearly tussle which featured dissected shirts and blackened bodies. Also adding to the general gaiety were naive, fully dressed swimmers paddling to and fro on the Harpeth.

A temporary hitch in the delirium came with the arrival of a contingent of blue coats who evidently took a dim view of nude strugglers. Warren obliged though by pinning back on his shorts and everyone was happy again.

In the lull before the storm, Seniors lolled through a softball game, while Juniors checked out to a nearby party for deep conversation with a group of local college youths.

The feed (box lunches dealt out by thoughtful Junior hosts) followed, then quickly melted into the long-awaited altercation (i.e.—brawl).

Paper Staffers Attend Banner Luncheon

Bell Ringer Editor Dick Cantrell led a five-man M.B.A. delegation to the third annual Nashville Banner sponsored Middle Tennessee High School Press Association banquet at the Noel Hotel, Saturday, April 22.

Other Bell Ringer staffers were: Sports Editor Jim Brent, News Editor Togy Jones, Assistant Sports Editor Kent Carney, and columnist Mack Dixon.

In Banner's Castle Heights' Cavalier took top honors in its class for the third straight year. North High's North Star and Sparta's Warrior chalked up first prizes in their divisions.

Before the presentations, interesting talks were given by members of the Banner staff along with Banner representatives from the Associated and United Press.

All mid-State representatives received a Banner extra with a special front page covering the banquet.

DR. MOORE DESCRIBES

(Continued from page 1, col. 5)
the boys of each class, together with certain especially prepared maps, were then bound into a "Class Prize Book" and each class book was awarded to the boy in that class who had made the best average in all his work for that year. I was at M.B.A. four years and have four of these books among my cherished possessions. I was also valedictorian of the class of 1900. I do not have a copy of my "Lecture", which was on "Radiant Energy." It was between 1890 and 1900 that radioactivity was discovered and in that same decade Marconi built the first practical "Wireless." I was so interested in these developments, that encouraged by Prof. Manning, I went into the M.B.A. laboratory in the Spring of 1899, and built from materials then at hand, a very crude "Wireless" transmitter and an equally as crude receiver. With this rough set-up Prof. Manning and I could send signals across a room. We gave a public demonstration of it, on Commencement Day, 1899. I was only 15 years old then, and I am certain that this was the very first demonstration of radio in the state of Tennessee.

"We had a self-governing body set up in 1899 known as the 'School

The Junior Representative



MISS ALLISON TIDMAN

The Junior class (and Bobby Graham) proudly announce their representative for 1950—Miss Allison Tidman.

Brown-eyed and brunette, Allison was born in Nashville, February 14, 1933; she is a graduate of Denby Demonstration School. A Junior now at Ward-Belmont, she is keeping up high grades in her four subjects, of which her favorites are French and English. At W-B, Allison is a member of the Triad Club

and was recently elected Student Council Secretary.

In extra-curricular activities she serves as recording Secretary for the Delta Beta Sigma Sorority. Her sports favorites are swimming and tennis. Allison is a member of Christ Church Episcopal and is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Tidman of McCann Avenue.

Congratulations to the Juniors for such a lovely representative.

Next issue—the Senior representative.

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— S P O R T S —

Maroon Nine Downs Peabody, Drops to Tough North Yank, Cohn Tiger Teams

Pounding out ten hits, half of which went for extra bases, the Maroons made Peabody baseball victim number two as they skinned the Tigers 11 to 1.

Charlie Hawkins again starred for the Big Red, striking out eleven while allowing five hits and giving up a single base on balls; at bat he contributed a triple and a home run in three attempts.

Other Maroon batting stars were Francis Horn, Charlie McDaniel, Carl Gates, and Jimmy Ray. Horn and McDaniel each had a home run and McDaniel also singled once. Gates had three singles and Ray a single and a double.

North simply had too many guns for M.B.A. as the Yankees drubbed the Big Red, 10 to 3, on April 24.

Eighteen Maroons fanned while only three got hits and only three walked; meanwhile, every Yank hit pitcher Pardue was collecting at least one hit, including a double and two triples, for a total of eleven safeties.

Charlie Hawkins gave up four bases on balls and struck out seven for M.B.A.; Carl Gates' long double was the big blow of the afternoon for the Maroons.

The Big Red, picking up only two runs off their six hits while Cohn managed an even dozen, dropped game number three May 4 at Thayer Hospital.

In a game marked by numerous errors, Jimmy Ray, changing places with battery mate Charlie Hawkins, allowed the Tigers twelve hits and four walks.

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Netters Hang Up One-One Record For Tennis Invasion

One-one-one, that's the record hung up by the Maroon tennis team in matches on their April 27-29 trip to Chattanooga.

On Thursday, April 27, the Maroons kept their season slate clean by a 3-3 tie against McCallie, one of the tennis powerhouses of the South, as Fox, McDaniel, and Harwell won their singles matches.

Next day the Big Red netters trounced Darlington 5-1 with Fox and Harwell again winning; they were aided by a victory from Jay Johns. The team also took all doubles matches.

In their third match in as many days the Maroons lost to Baylor on Taylor's courts. Fox was handed his first defeat of the season by Louis Royal; Harwell, handicapped by a sprained wrist, also lost a decision.

Even with the loss considered all Academy boys had a grand time on the trip (and were especially happy about getting out of school).

Golfers Upset East In 4½ - 1½ Win

Academy linksmen upset the defending city-champs of East, Monday, May 8, as they breezed to a 4½ to 1½ win on the McCabe course.

City Champ Jimmy Pickel edged out Palmer Temple for the Maroons' only loss, while Lem Stevens took Wayne Taylor with little trouble 38 to 47. M.B.A. number one man Morris Ferguson won over Bob Adams 38 to 42 and Stanley Seat registered a victory over Billy Strickland, 37 to 38.

This win brings another sport championship in reach of the Maroons. The golf foursome faces undefeated West Monday in another top match.

Although unsuccessful in their Chattanooga tournament (tenth among thirteen teams) the Academy golfers are still pointing for city honors after the recent victory over Bellevue and Monday's surprise over East.

STEPHENS MARKET

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Personality of the Month

by Mack Dixon



Fontaine McDaniel

The Bell Ringer's personality for its special Alumni Day issue is Fontaine McDaniel. Fontaine entered the Academy as a freshman and began his tennis team career that year.

As a sophomore, McDaniel surprised everyone, except maybe himself and Coach Rule, by streaking his way into the finals of the city tournament, his opponent being the defending champ, Harry Corson. Fontaine was defeated by Harry, but his showing despite his being only a sophomore caused his rating as one of the top netters in the city.

Last year, besides managing the football team, Fontaine, sporting his new glasses, played number three on the tennis squad, behind Spickard and Fox, the '48 champ, and won all but one of his matches.

Fontaine played varsity football this fall, causing Coach to remark that he wished all boys had McDaniel's "guts."

This net season McDaniel has continued his winning ways, taking eight out of nine decisions and holding a victory over the boy who dumped him for that one defeat.

Besides his athletics, Fontaine holds a high rank in the classes, and his remarks and antics liven up what might be otherwise dull sessions. His high laugh is famous in school and to top it off he was selected wittiest in the annual poll.

Favorite subject—Chemistry
Most hated subject—History
Easiest subject—Spanish
Hardest subject—English

Favorite food—Steak with all the trimmings.

Most hated food—Pimento cheese
Favorite comic strip character—Joe Palooka

Favorite sport—Tennis
Favorite actress—June Haver

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Maroon Highlights

by Jim Brent

The baseball team has made an encouraging come-back after losing to Ryan and barely tying Lipscomb in the first two games. Since then the diamond squad has lost only to North. Charlie Hawkins has established himself as one of the League's top stars by batting over .500 and sparking the Maroons with his good right arm.

The recent road trip to Chattanooga made by the tennis and golf teams was costly. The netters were beaten once and tied once, while the linksmen plummeted to tenth place in the thirteen team tournament. In addition, singles star Sambo Harwell suffered a sprained wrist. But despite the setback, the tour was probably of greater value than is at once apparent, since the young performers received some much-needed experience in playing under pressure.

This year more than ever before M. B. A. Alumni at Vanderbilt are excelling in sports. In football, the Wade brothers; in basketball and golf, Pete Robinson; in track, Jack Burch and Moore Milam; and in tennis, Harry Corson, Kermit Stengel, Rascoe Davis, Any Spickard, Dan Denny, and Marston Crump are helping the Commodore teams now as they did the Maroon teams while at M. B. A.

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Mrs. Ball Receives Invitation to Alumni Day



Mrs. Isaac Ball, widow of the late Professor Isaac Ball, M. B. A. Headmaster for thirty years, receives an invitation to the May 11 Alumni Day from Dick Cantrell, John Sloan, and Jim Bass. From l. to r., Mrs. Ball, Bell Ringer Editor Dick Cantrell, Microbe declamation runner-up John Sloan, and Grade School speech winner Jim Bass.—Courtesy of the Nashville Banner.

Examiners Wind Up Required Check After Three Day Inspection At School

Eight prominent Tennessee educators wound up a three day examination of the Academy, Wednesday, May 3.

The group was appointed by the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools in line with the Association

Library News

Library Stocks Series Of New Best Sellers

Several top new books have taken their places on the Academy Library shelves.

Among the more enjoyable best sellers is *Cheaper by the Dozen*. The story is about the Gilbreth family; the Dad who had enough gall to be divided into three parts, the mother, and their twelve unpredictable children. This book, written by two of the twelve children, is sure to liven up a dull evening.

On the more serious side is "Mr. Jones, Meet the Master" by Peter Marshall, the late Senate chaplain. The book, recently reviewed in a chapel talk by Ben Adams, contains the best of Marshall's prayers and sermons.

A Pulitzer Prizewinner, "The Way West" by A. B. Guthrie, is a western story which should serve as hours of entertainment for its reader. The library has many such enjoyable books.

ruling that all member schools must have a similar check-up by the end of 1950.

Inspectors at M.B.A. were: Mr. Howard Kirksey and Dr. Richard Peck, Middle Tennessee State College; Mr. C. M. S. McIlwaine, the McCallie School; Mr. Robert Webb, the Webb School; Miss Louise Meredith, Tennessee State High School Librarian; Mr. Glenn Eddington, Headmaster, Battle Ground Academy; Mr. Holland Noel, Principal, North (Nashville) High; and Dr. Merlin Peterson, chemistry head, Vanderbilt University.

Purpose of the examination was to check how well each school lived up to its own educational goals. "Educational philosophies" were drawn up for the inspectors to follow.

Results of this first examination at the Academy will be announced in an Association letter to the school.

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Bottom O' the Afternoon

by Blue LaRue

Well, well, didn't we all have fun at the annual Junior-Senior Picnic? . . . Rice forgets water-wings, nearly drowns; is revived by artificial respiration by Oman . . . Causey absent due to sprained eyelash . . . Wilk unable to attend because of



Blue LaRue

sore hangnail . . . Fat royalties coming to Ben Kingree from "Third Man Theme" . . . (Mule Train" still going strong) . . . "Over Hill, Over Dale" has strong appeal for Gibbs. Wood vaguely remembers "Diane" . . . Jim Cherry peels bandages, reveals ugly scars from dog fight . . . Watts issued drivers license. State Safety Department folds up in wild disorder . . . Seniors focus vacation thoughts on Florida as Coble, Hawkins, McNeilly map riotous two weeks by the silvery sands . . . Experts write off Tension as cinch for Spanish medal . . . Calamity John Dobson and Sam Bass star for Microbe ball club . . . "Coach of Year" award goes to Baird . . . Dixon taking Derby bets at tremendous odds for "Speedball." Quotes Dixon, "I know he's not running, but look at the money I'm making" . . . Carney to run in Derby at 6 to 1 . . . Explains Comer, "Don't worry, I've spiked his feed bag." . . . Anderson has ideas of entering race until he learns all horses are fed oats, remarks, "I take nothing but rye." . . . Roberts and Ward blast Gonzales and Kramer in recent lopsided challenge match . . . Roberts holds open day for autographs—two for a dollar . . . "Set-Shot" Rackard hits from mid-court. Hawkins gives up athletics . . . Reuther forgets shower at gym, to take demerit king crown at commencement . . . Blackvelder and Bo Jones decline comment on subject . . . Stevens absorbs charming sun tan on golf links, signs up as caddy for

ALUMNI SIDELIGHTS

(Continued from page 1, col. 1)

M. Andrews. A former Academy football star, General Andrews was commander of the European Theater of Operations. The school football field was named in his honor.

Mr. C. R. Wynn, attended M.B.A. when it was a part of the University of Nashville. Mr. Wynn played for the Academy grid team and also served as a substitute for the college eleven.

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